

Dean Richard Minter retires after 38 years

By De'Airra Marchbanks
Staff Writer

After 38 years at TJC, Dean of University Studies Richard Minter has decided to retire. He believes working at TJC was more than just a coincidence.

"I've spent most of my life here. I feel like God has placed me here," Minter said.

He didn't have to wait long to get hired at TJC. After applying, he was called back on Monday, came in for an appointment on Friday and went home with a contract that same day.

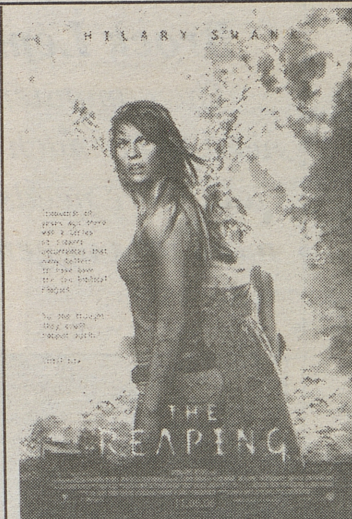
He started as a drafting teacher in 1969. In 1973 he was promoted to assistant dean of technology. From 1974-1985 he served as dean of technology. From 1985-2004 he worked as dean of program development and institutional research. Then in Fall 2004, TJC President Dr. William Crowe promoted Minter to his current position, dean of university studies.

This is his third year serving as dean and he admits this is the best job he's ever held at TJC.

Continued on page 3



Photo by De'Airra Marchbanks



MOVIE REVIEW

page 3

ART AUCTION

page 5

Project Pilot offers introductory flight lessons

By Katie Hall
Editor

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association has recently established Project Pilot, an organization designed to instruct individuals on the basics of flying. Anyone with courage and determination can obtain a pilot's license after participating in flight training and a series of instructional flight lessons.

Those who want to obtain a private pilot's license must meet certain requirements. An individual must be at least 17 years old to be a certified private pilot.

A minimum amount of flying time is also required before certification. A student must complete at least 40 hours of flying time; 10 hours spent flying alone and 20 hours flying with an instructor.

The pilot in training must also pass a Federal Administration Aviation knowledge test. Students can prepare for the test by attending a regularly scheduled class or by using at home study methods such as DVD's, videos or computers.

A medical exam is also required every few years,

insuring that vision and health are adequate for flying.

After the instruction process, students will take a two-part exam testing flight knowledge and their actual skills while flying in the aircraft.

There are more than 3,500 flight schools in the nation. Five are nearby: in Terrell, Palestine, Henderson, Longview and Jacksonville. Prices for instruction vary, but some schools offer introductory flight lessons ranging from \$49 to \$89. On the first lesson the student will be able to

fly the airplane and count this as part of the required flying time.

Terrell Aviation Flight Instructor Mark Hardin, a certified pilot for 32 years, has been instructing for seven years. He is the only instructor at Terrell Aviation at this time, but they are looking at resumes from other pilots interested in joining the program. In addition to flight instruction, Hardin flies for various companies. He also has experience in building and maintaining planes.

The number of students
Continued on page 5

JAZZ FESTIVAL

page 7

GRADUATION

page 8

LAS MASCARAS

page 12

Campus Focus Reporter: Donnie Lee

Campus Focus

If you could change one thing about TJC, what would it be?

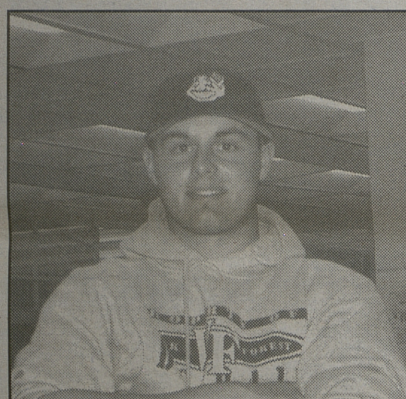
Brock Lemire

"The computer labs need to be much bigger and there needs to be more labs in general."



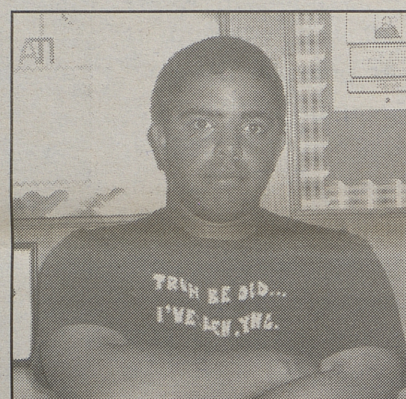
Jesse Weaver

"There should be wireless internet in every building."



Rocio Ordorica

"The library hours need to be extended to 24 hours just like universities."



Whitney Murphy

"There needs to be an easier way of getting hold of teachers, such as making their office hours longer."

Today's values are often based on culture; not absolutes

By Royce Eller
Staff Writer

In the present day we students are presented a challenge nearly every day.

Some days the challenge is a quiz in world literature or algebra, other days it's just getting out of bed on a Friday morning to go to class.

Other challenging issues involve ethical and moral tolerance.

To understand moral tolerance,

one must read western philosopher Ruth Benedict's writings.

Benedict begins her analysis by observing that isolated, primitive cultures consider normal individuals whose personality traits civilized cultures would consider abnormal.

Benedict draws her thesis, that social systems are patterns of ideas and practices that develop in certain directions over time. Some patterns, emphasize paranoia;

some, trust.

Individuals with dispositions are considered normal in paranoid cultures and deviant in trusting cultures.

Benedict believes what is morally good in a given culture is simply a result of how that particular culture's pattern has developed.

Some people generally find it hard to accept values of cultures other than their own.

Many people have been so

heavily influenced by their own culture that they assume their values are absolute.

So as you walk down the sidewalk to your next history class reading your newly-published school paper, take a look around at the different cultures and realize that all cultural moral values are relative.

That means an individual, such as you, cannot judge the values of cultures different from your own.

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Dean Richard Minter retires

Continued from page 1

"I love the faculty and the students," Minter said.

While TJC's campus is covered with improvements such as new parking lots, dorms and the new tennis courts, Dean Minter remembers when TJC was a part of the Tyler Independent School District. A few faculty and students held classes at Tyler High School.

He has also worked for all of the TJC's presidents: Dr. Harry Jenkins, Dr. Raymond Hawkins and Dr. Crowe. Dr. Crowe has been such a pleasure to work for, Minter said,

"He's been good to me and good for me."

In a recent press release, Dr. Crowe expressed his gratitude for Dean Minter, "Richard has been a tremendous leader and someone this college has relied upon to serve in varied capacities. He's earned the respect and support of faculty and staff alike. We are indebted to him for his extended service as dean of university studies and wish him the very best for the future."

Dr. Fernando Figueroa, who will become dean when Minter retires, is expected to begin his duties

in June. Dr. Figueroa is now dean of arts and letters at Morton College in Cicero, Ill. Dean Minter said he hopes his replacement will let TJC employees do their jobs.

As a former U.S. Army officer, TJC has taught him to be more relaxed over the years. "At the age of 31, when I first started working at TJC, I overreacted to things. I've now learned what's more important."

In almost four decades at TJC, people might assume there have been many crazy moments. Not so. He can only remember one moment that sticks out in his mind.

"I had a faculty member

disappear between Pirtle Technology Center and the library while checking his mailbox." Minter said he never found out why until a couple of years later when the instructor came back. The former employee told him he had to get out of town, but Minter is not sure if that's the real story.

Hard work is the key to Minter's success. "Opportunity comes disguised as hard work. Successful people don't mind working," he said. Minter said he tries to stay true to a quote Dr. Edwin Fowler had posted in his office, "Bloom where you are planted."

Minter leaves these words for TJC students,

"No matter what the circumstances are, have a good attitude and do your very best wherever you are planted."

His priorities have changed, Minter, 69 said. His obligations are now to his wife and family. "My wife told me it's time to retire," he said, and he looks forward to his future outdoors. "I want more freedom and flexibility to go camping. I want to enjoy setting my own schedule for a while."

The faculty should not think they've seen the last of him. He still has some indoor plans. He said he may come back to teach a class.

Movie Review: *The Reaping*

By Katie Hall
Editor

Two-time Academy Award winning actress Hillary Swank is known for starring in Oscar worthy films, but her latest performance in "The Reaping" leaves some audience members wondering why she agreed to this role.

"The Reaping" is a fictional story based on the 10 biblical plagues. Swank plays an ordained minister named Katherine who lost her faith after her husband and daughter were murdered while ministering in another country. Angry at God, she turns her back on him and focuses completely on her career in teaching.

When mysterious things begin to happen in a small Louisiana town, Katherine is invited there to help find out why these things are happening. The town's river has turned red, dead frogs fall from the trees and the children become infested with lice. Other frightening things continue to happen, each mirroring one of the 10 plagues. Surprisingly, these horrific occurrences seem to be tied to a mysterious little girl in the town. Will Katherine regain her faith and put an end to the town's torment or will she continue to believe only in her scientific explanations, ultimately destroying herself and those around her?

From the trailers, "The Reaping" appears to be absolutely terrifying, but it actually shares more similarities with a mystery than a horror film. It only provides a few "creepy" moments that one could hardly call frightening. However, the film does successfully hold the audience's attention. One of its strong points is its realistic portrayal of the plagues. "The Reaping" may not satisfy every audience, but viewers who are looking for a light mystery with a few twists and turns will find it interesting enough.

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TJC lifeguards plan to run in the 'Race for the Cure'

By Sonier Elder
Staff Writer

The 22nd Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure will raise awareness and funds for research with a walk/run marathon starting at 8 a. m. on May 12 at Bergfeld Park. Walkers will start at 8:30 a. m.

This year the TJC lifeguards have volunteered to participate if volunteers will sponsor their \$18 entrance fee. TJC lifeguards are seeking sponsors so they can participate. Interested persons can call Communications Coordinator Jeanie Brookshire who is in charge of TJC Komen Race entries.

The money collected will go to breast cancer research. The Educational Support Staff Association or ESSA, women on campus who are not faculty, support the Komen Race each year.

Staff technician Sondra Ramsour, an ESSA member, is committed to raising breast cancer awareness.

"Awareness goes a long way for prevention and lifeguards are about the same thing we are which is saving lives, so we thought it would be really nice to support them this year," Ramsour said.

The students will give up their Saturday morning to participate instead

of sleeping late so they can help someone else.

"Breast cancer strikes men and women young and old," Ramsour said.

She is very enthusiastic about this year's race. She remembers some years ago when women were ashamed to admit they had breast cancer.

Efforts from groups such as the Komen Race have erased a lot of the stigma attached to the disease.

The Komen Race was started when Susan G. Komen, who was dying of breast cancer, made her sister Nancy G. Brinker promise she would do something to help women diagnosed

with breast cancer.

Twenty five years later the Komen Foundation is the world's largest source of private funds for breast cancer research. They have resources of \$1 billion.

"We're proud of the fact that we don't just dump funds and run," Nancy Brinker said.

"We create activists: one person, one community, one state, one nation at a time to try and solve the No. 1 health concern of women," Brinker said on the Komen Foundation website.

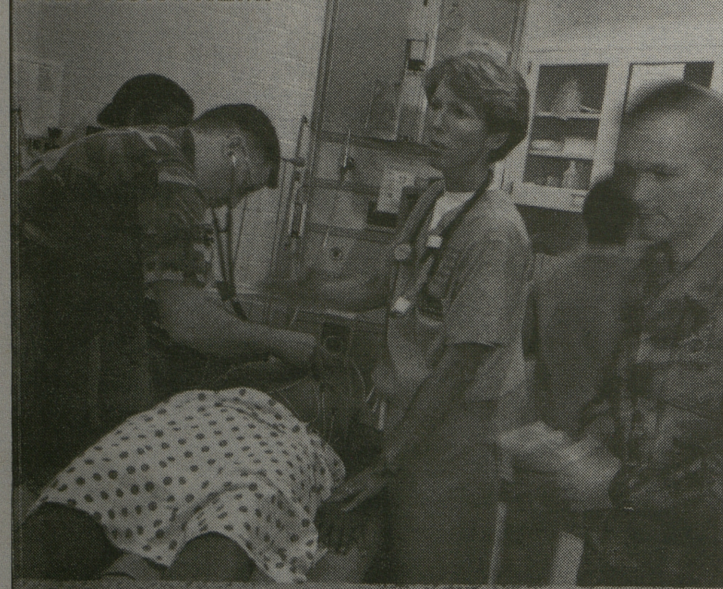
Largely due to the Komen Race, their affiliates, cooperative partners, individual donors and Komen

staffs and activists, millions of lives have been saved. Two million breast cancer survivors represent the largest group of survivors of any disease today.

"Nearly 75 percent of women over the age of 40 now receive regular mammograms, Brinker said, compared to just 30 percent in 1982.

"Now it's time to take an aggressive stance. We must raise the expectations of science, institutions and ourselves. We are close to creating a world without breast cancer. The science is there. Now is the time for us to see this fight through so that no one ever has to fear breast cancer again."

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Nursing program continues to educate students, provide careers

By Ashlie Osburn
Staff Writer

For years the TJC Nursing Program has successfully educated students, providing Tyler and surrounding areas with well-equipped nursing staffs. TJC offers students three options: a licensed vocational nursing certificate, an associate degree in nursing and a transfer degree for LVN graduates to transfer to the ADN degree plan.

Students must complete these prerequisites to enter the nursing program: take the NET (Nurse Entrance Test), have a minimum GPA of 2.0 in all courses taken,

complete Anatomy and Physiology 1 and Human Growth and Development. They also must complete 15 hours of general coursework before they can apply to the nursing program.

The NET exam assesses math and reading skills, social interaction, stress levels, learning style, critical thinking abilities and test-taking skills.

Associate Degree Nursing Program Director Rebecca Seeton said, "The more courses you have taken with high grades, the better chance you have to get in." The Nursing Program admits applicants

three times a year, with 40 students for the fall semester, 40 for the spring and 20 students in the summer.

"Forty nursing students graduated in December and all but two had already had a job," Seeton said. The two students that didn't have one right away were still deciding where to apply. On average, nurses have the potential to make around \$45,000 a year right after graduation.

The Board of Nursing Examiners requires an 80 percent pass rate. TJC nursing faculty put forth abundant effort for stu-

Continued on page 11

Student Senate elections

By Jenna Burns
Staff Writer

Student Senate elected new officers in March.

The officers are President Royce Eller, Vice-President Holly Siggelow, Secretary Maria Cruces. Sophomore officers are: President Deborah Green, Vice-President Lesa Jones, Secretary Alex Chester and Senators Yvonne Gutierrez, and Billy Hayes. Three sophomore senators will be

elected in the fall and five will be elected to the Student Service Fee Advisory Board. The board will include freshmen and sophomores.

A student life fee will be set in the fall, enabling the Senate to bring in more and better programs.

"Next fall should be exciting. Look for major performers and expect big name entertainment," Nalley said.

Project Pilot flight lessons

Continued from page 1

instructed at Terrell Aviation varies throughout the year. There are actually only about 600,000 certified pilots in the entire U.S. right now, Hardin said. Students training at Terrell Aviation will fly in either a Cessna 172, which seats 4 or a Cessna 152, which seats 2.

Most students enter the Project Pilot program to earn their private pilot license, but they can gain many other certifications. Some earn their commercial license, which they can use to find general aviation jobs. Others obtain their instrument rating certification, which prepares pilots for flying in cloudy or bad weather conditions. Hardin said instrument rating "allows more versatility" for the pilot when flying.

Other certificates and ratings they can earn are: a student pilot's certificate, a recreational certificate, multi-engine ratings, in-

structor ratings, an Airline Transport Pilot certificate and certificates and endorsements to fly different types of planes such as helicopters.

Hardin advises flight students to avoid getting discouraged when training. "The rules of the air are similar to the rules of the road," he said. He also stresses the fact that flying is a safer means of travel than driving. Airplane accidents are rarely ever heard of, but when they are, it makes national news, he said. One of the worst things a pilot can do while flying is panic. They will most likely not be able to land properly, causing the plane to crash. Pilots who remain calm are much less likely to have an accident.

Individuals interested in learning to fly can find a flight school nearby at the Project Pilot website, www.projectpilot.org/tylerjuniorcollege.

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Silent art auction set to take place

By Clemestine Jackson
Staff Writer

"Art appreciation is one of the cultural events on the TJC campus this spring," Art Instructor Barbara Holland said. "There was a Silent Art Auction in the Art Department Hallway in April."

The fourth annual Art Show for high school students will open April 16.

Holland grew up in England where she trained as an illustrator.

After teaching art in the United Kingdom for 29 years, she moved to Longview.

She began teaching at TJC full-time in 2000 after teaching here part-time for several years.

"As an artist, I explore relationships. Flora and fauna, dance and my love of history are my main motivators," Holland said.

"Color is a major aspect of my work. I work across many media and into the 3D area with paper-sculpture, often mixing them together."

"I seek to create work, not only about the observation of the world, but also about the contemplation of living in it," Holland said.

Her education includes an art teacher's diploma and bachelor of arts degree from Leicester College of Art and Leicester University in England and a master of arts degree from the University of North Texas in Denton.

Holland has an extensive career exhibiting her work in regional, national and international shows. Her work is displayed in many public and private collections, including the World Trade Center and she is listed in the 2006

edition of "Who's Who in America."

At TJC Holland teaches courses in art appreciation, drawing, painting and art for elementary school teachers. She said she finds the work both enjoyable and fulfilling.

The TJC Art Club works to inspire and enable club members to learn and present ideas that will elevate artistic expression and develop supportive relationships with our community, Holland said.

The Art Club is open to any TJC student interested in visual arts. No dues are required.

They meet at 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays in the Jenkins Hall Art Department Lobby. For more information about the Art Department and art activities, contact Holland at 903-510-2233.

A Cappella Choir performs for packed house

By Tamar Dos Santos
Staff Writer

Angelic voices echoed off the vaulted ceilings of Marvin United Methodist Church Sanctuary as the TJC A Cappella Choir joined the Marvin Chancel Choir to sing Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Requiem" and an arrangement of "The Phantom of the Opera." This rare opportunity to experience Webber's only choral composition filled the room March 25.

Admission was free but tickets were required to ensure sufficient seats.

The tonality and volume of the choirs could be heard perfectly because the domed, vaulted ceilings channel sounds downward with little distortion or delay.

The choirs looked ele-

gant in classic black dresses and tuxedos. Soloists were soprano Monica Hamilton, tenor Rick Rainey and 13-year-old treble William Holt. Pianist Kerry Baham, applied piano instructor at TJC, and organist Judith P. York were followed by Conductor Frode Gunderson, director of worship and fine arts at Marvin UMC.

The exquisite dissonance and sweet harmony of Lloyd Webber's liturgical funeral mass inspired by his father's death entranced the audience.

"The Requiem" is both mournful with the Ingemisco - Lacrimosa, and joyful with Hosanna, a fervent shout of praise. Pie Jesu translates as "Oh, sweet Lord Jesus, grant us rest." The final movement, Lux Aeterna, intertwines with

the organ to bring a final sense of peace to this classic.

The choirs quickly moved into a shortened arrangement of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Phantom of the Opera" taking the audience on a musical journey.

From the play's opera house in Paris to the bright, well-lit stage to the dark haunting lair of the Phantom, they gave a quick sampling of what an award-winning Broadway play has to offer.

The audience was silent as the sound waves reverberated off the stone ceiling.

After a few seconds, they rose to their feet in a standing ovation, proving that music truly does move the soul.

'Aqua Teen' gains college fans

By Devala Gorrick
Staff Writer

Almost every college student has tuned in to the adult swim channel late at night to watch "Aqua Teen" for its amazing characters like Master Shake, a talking milkshake; Meatwad, a talking meatball; Frylock, a talking box of French fries, and many more insightful characters. They have adventures like fighting giant miscreant leprechauns, you get the picture. Those who don't understand the show or have never seen it should turn the page and probably quit college because they're missing out on the greatest show to be invented for college students.

Aqua Teen Hunger Force has hit the big screen, premiering today

in theaters nationwide. The movie, like the show, presents its true absurdity, brutal gore, nonsensical disregard for any internal logic or structure and basically everything young adults want in a movie. Although the movie will be much funnier to those stoned out of their minds, anyone can appreciate the twisted humor even if they are just jacked up on a good amount of coke and redbull.

Hunger Force fans and students with a profound sense of humor should watch this movie. The 11-minute show was stretched to 86 minutes for the movie, so be ready for drawn-out scenes here and there. Don't expect more than a longer version of the cartoon show.

Exercise can benefit body, mind; improves sleep

By James Warren
Staff Writer

Now that spring is here, the year's best weather is upon us. Apart from the allergies, the flowers are beautiful, the breeze is cool, the grass is green, the sun stays out longer and the mercury still reads under 100. Obviously, this is the best time of the year to get your "fit" on.

Whether you believe it or not, regular exercise is essential for a productive life.

Eddy McGuire, who has been an athletic trainer

for 14 years, is in his fourth year as the Apaches' head trainer.

McGuire said, "Exercise is important because it helps promote health and happiness. Being physically fit allows you to enjoy life."

Regular exercise benefits not only the body, but the mind as well. Aside from burning calories by speeding up metabolism, exercise also helps the brain think clearly.

"Many famous and creative people do their best thinking after some good

exercise," McGuire said.

The ability to think clearly may be directly connected to the body's release of endorphins during exercise. Endorphins are chemicals that help the mind and body feel good. They are referred to as "natural pain killers."

Arguably, promoting a good night's rest is one of exercise's biggest benefits. The body is more capable of REM (or deep sleep) when its energy levels are low. In general, exercise makes the body sleep longer and more efficiently.

An average adult needs daily exercise, McGuire said, "at least 45 minutes a day, three days a week."

This is enough to stimulate the body, but not exhaust it. Everyone is different so the amounts of exercise and rest needed vary from person to person.

Many wonder what the best forms of exercise are. McGuire said, "It's all individual. Some people might walk their dog or mow their lawn, while others might swim or play sports."

The key is finding an

activity you like or are interested in and fitting it into your schedule.

Students' days are compacted with classes, labs, studying, work and what seems like an endless list of other responsibilities. This reality stresses the importance of finding an hour in the day to comfortably get out and get your "fit" on.

As McGuire said, "Make sure you find an activity you enjoy and that it fits your schedule, and remember, it's never too late to start exercising."

Binge drinking among most common addictions

By Elisa Doyle
Staff Writer

One of the most common college student behaviors is binge drinking.

Keggers, the ones who bring the drinks, enable students to drink from the keg until it floats because it is empty. Then they go to another place to drink another one.

TJC has a zero tolerance policy for anyone who drinks alcohol on campus or uses any type of drugs not prescribed by a doctor, Psychology Instructor Chris Smith said.

One group of students brought a keg on campus and were arrested.

Binge drinking is only one of many addictive behaviors. Even coffee can be an addiction for someone,

Smith said.

How can a person know if he or she is addicted?

Webster's Dictionary defines addiction as one who is addicted to or has compulsive need for and use of a habit-forming substance such as heroin, nicotine or alcohol characterized by tolerance and well-defined physiological symptoms upon withdrawal.

Persistent compulsive use of a substance known by the user to be harmful is evidence of addiction or substance abuse. Individuals who are addicted show their behaviors. People in their life may be telling them to quit a certain habit they believe may be controlling them or to stop going to places just because

that certain "thing" is there, Smith said.

After using a substance for a while, users start to build a tolerance for it and find they need more of it. Tolerance can build an addiction because the user wants that good feeling. Those who start out with something that doesn't seem harmful, soon find they crave it and must feed it. That increases the desire for the good feeling. Many have friends they have pushed away because they didn't agree with their lifestyle.

Smith said he quit smoking by holding the cigarette in his hand for five minutes and then the craving went away. His example made him realize that addiction is related to

habit, something a person is used to doing.

Another person ate cinnamon sticks and sucked on refrigerated skittles to break an addiction. This worked because each lasts about five minutes and that is usually how long the craving for nicotine lasts, sophomore General Studies Major Ashley Simmons said.

Claws hurt going in and claws hurt coming out and the only way to get over the hurt is truth," Sophomore Psychology Major Sarah Jones said.

Sophomore Music Major Beau Garland said, "Stop doing it. Quit. You have to decide whether the reason you started is a good enough reason to keep doing it."

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TJC hosted jazz festival which featured Vince DiMartino

By Sonier Elder
Staff Writer

TJC hosted its annual jazz festival March 23 in Wise Auditorium. Admission was free and eight bands participated.

Featured guest artist was Vince DiMartino, former lead solo trumpet with the Lionel Hampton Band, the Chuck Mangione Band and the Clark Terry Band.

After the performances, DiMartino worked with each band for 30 minutes.

The festival, the only one like it in East Texas, is the brainchild of low brass, instructor Heather Mensch said.

"Jazz is the only uniquely American music and art form we have. The idea behind the festival is to encourage high school jazz. This gives them a place to come and be exposed to new and different ideas," Mensch said.

The festival also serves as an improv clinic where bands play a mixture of music including Latin and jazz while their performance is judged by a panel of judges.

"I usually take them to compete. They get to perform for some judges and then the judges critique them on their performanc-

es," Mensch said.

TJC has two ensembles with 18 and 19 members respectively. Students interested in becoming members next year can audition in the first week of August.

Prospective applicants can call or e-mail Mensch at hmen2@tjc.edu to receive copies of sheet music in May to help prepare for auditions.

Applicants must be able to play trombone, piano, or drums.

The ensemble always needs fresh talent because members leave regularly when they graduate or transfer to other institu-

tions.

Mensch said she has been playing since fifth grade.

She graduated with a music performance degree in bass trombone from the University of Kentucky and a master's degree in education from Houston Baptist University. Her specialties are the tuba and the euphonium.

To provide the jazz ensemble with exposure and more opportunities to develop their talent, Mensch hopes the jazz ensemble can qualify for the international festival in Toronto and do more traveling.

Mensch said she deeply appreciates TJC administrators for their support of the Band, citing the scholarships which enable students to enroll. The fact that the TJC President Dr. William R. Crowe regularly attends the concerts also gives her great pleasure.

Mensch wants her students to have fun and to love music. "Jazz is about playing music and having fun. That's what I hope the students will appreciate. If I could make them fall in love and appreciate music for the rest of their lives, then I've done my job," Mensch said.

Tyler Transit still popular

By Tamar Dos Santos
Staff Writer

Tyler Transit - the word may strike fear and anxiety into some hearts. Taking a trip on the Red Line proved to be less traumatizing than expected.

Nervously she waited by the bus stop, hoping she had her times right and would not be late. Just as she began to lose hope, the Red Line bus pulled up to the curb and sighed to a stop. The doors gently slid open to reveal the smiling face of the pretty blonde bus driver. This calmed the young girl's fears for

a moment, while she dug through her purse for her bus fare, 75 cents to be exact. She settled herself in a seat close to the front thinking "This might not be so bad."

The bus took off on another adventurous route through Tyler. The hum of the engine and the chatter of the regulars lulled the girl into relaxing. She looked around and began to notice the diversity of the people on the bus. They did not look so menacing up close and they spoke to each other like old friends. The

Continued on page 12

Graduation deadline has passed

By Dawn Golden
Staff Writer

Spring is here which means only four weeks remain until graduation at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 12 in Wagstaff Gymnasium.

The deadline for applying to graduate was April 2. Students who did not apply on time will not be able to graduate this spring.

"Students will have to wait until the fall semester to graduate," Staff Technician/TSI Coordinator Tamika M. McCullough said.

Asked if there was any possible loophole in the

graduation deadline, McCullough just shook her head.

"If a student misses the deadline, there is nothing the college can do," she said.

The students who have applied for graduation on time will receive a letter from the registrar's office with graduation day information.

Admission to graduation is free. Students will receive five free invitations to be sent out to relatives and friends.

Additional invitations will cost 25 cents each.

On graduation day, students are to arrive at the gym at 8 a.m. for rehearsal.

This may seem early for these students who like to sleep in on a Saturday, but it is necessary for graduates to know what they are to do during the graduation ceremony.

"During rehearsal, students will receive their free caps and gowns," University Studies Staff Aide Wanda Scott said. "Students will also be shown exactly what to do when walking and receiving their diploma."

Psi Gamma member wins contest

Cirra Lowery, a member of Psi Gamma won the Sigma Kappa Delta national essay writing contest with her "Analysis of Langston Hughes On The Road."

The writing competition winners were announced during the National Sigma Kappa Delta conference luncheon held in Pittsburgh.

Astronomy Day set for April 21

The Hudnall Planetarium will be open to the public for Astronomy Day April 21.

Admission costs \$3 for adults and \$2 for students under 18 and seniors over 65. The doors open at 2 p.m. and the final event begins at 8 p.m.

Shows and lectures scheduled are:

2-3 p.m. "Mars 4th World"

3-4 p.m. "Hubble: Images of the Infinite"

4-5 p.m. "More Than Meets the Eye"

5-6 p.m. Demonstrations by the Society of Physics Students

6-7 p.m. Lecture by Tom Hooten, NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador

7-8 p.m. Lecture by Patsy Patten, NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador

8 p.m. Telescopic viewing on the Planetarium Plaza, weather permitting

News Briefs

City offers softball league

Slow-pitch softball teams can register for the City of Tyler summer season until late May, Tyler Parks and Recreation Director Van Jordan said.

The league is divided into four categories; church league, industrial, men's open, and co-rec.

Each team is required to have at least 12 players on their roster.

In co-rec, at least half the players must be women, and all players must be at least 18.

Registration fees usually costs \$250 to \$300 and teams must have matching uniforms. For more information, contact Jordan at 903-531-1377.

Student film festival accepting entries

The Inaugural Scene First National Student Film Festival has extended their deadline for submission to April 16. Students are invited to submit their original films for possible screening before a national audience June 14-16 in Wilmington, N.C.

Entering costs \$25 and students may enter multiple films. The Scene First Festival will bring first-time filmmakers from across the nation for three days of film screenings, studio tours and educational programming.

Students at the festival will have opportunities to showcase films, network with industry professionals and receive hands-on training from film industry experts.

Students may submit films online at www.scenefirstfestival.com. For more information access the website.

TJC International Day is April 24

International Day will be held April 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Apache Rooms.

The day will consist of cultural exhibits, international music, entertainment, food fair and arts and crafts, Government Instructor Dr. Manoucher Khrosrowshahi said.

The activities are planned to advance global awareness and education in East Texas. Students and community volunteers represent more than 50 nations every year on campus. Students prepare exhibits to inform the public about the world today and answer visitors' questions.

Organizations, buildings have long history at TJC

By Dawn Golden
Staff Writer

During the decades of the '50s, '60s, and '70s TJC began its growth into the college it is today.

Beginning in 1946, plans to construct the new campus were underway on a piece of property that would require an extensive amount of leveling and landscaping.

"A primitive practice football field would have to be scraped out of a clay hill, and water from a nearby creek had to be brought in by a water truck to set-

tle the dust," according to "A History of Tyler Junior College 1926-1986." "Thus began the tedious process of establishing a college on the new campus."

Students looked forward to the time when the campus would open, but due to post-war material shortages, it would be three years before the new campus opened in 1949.

"Jenkins Hall was still uncompleted when the first classes were held there in September of 1949," according to TJC history.

Rushing to occupy the

new building before it was completed soon revealed a frigid problem for students.

"On the first cold day it was discovered that a heating system had been omitted," according to TJC history.

In 1949, the grounds of the campus were not filled with towering trees and beautiful gardens like today. Instead, there was a more primitive look about them.

"The campus was described as a 'sea of mud' located in the country, iso-

lated and having no trees," according to TJC history.

The 1950s brought new courses as enrollment increased.

One was the vocational program for veterans which flourished in the early part of the decade.

"The large enrollment of veterans, including those returning from the Korean War, had put Tyler Junior College ahead of all junior colleges in the state in veteran enrollment," according to TJC history.

The new courses that were offered during the 50s were fine arts, nursing and athletics.

Other programs include the Apache Band, which began in 1947, and the Apache Belles, who were originally called the Apache Roses at their start in 1948.

The campus grew with the addition of the Wise Auditorium and Ramey Tower in 1956.

"The new Tyler Junior College with its new campus, winning teams and colorful organizations was instantly popular."

According to TJC history, "Further, the new college coincided neatly with the post-war boom which never stopped."

The 1960s and 1970s brought more growth and development. During the 60s, the college grew due to the post-war "baby boom" student body.

It was then that most buildings on campus were built.

These include Potter Hall, Wagstaff Gymnasium, Hudnall Planetarium and the George W. Pirtle Technology Building. Not until the 1970s did TJC witness its peak period of physical expansion.

"It was during this time that three of the largest structures would be erected: the Aleck Genevov Science and Arts Building, the Watson W. Wise and Emma Wise Cultural Arts Center and the Bonna Bess Vaughn Conservatory," according to TJC history.

Perhaps the most unique of these buildings is the Bonna Bess Vaughn Conservatory which, according to TJC history, would be the major center for the expanding horticulture program.

"Truly a 'show spot' on campus, the conservatory trains students who, in recent years, have contributed so much to the attractive campus landscaping," according to TJC history.

As the seventies came to a close, it was obvious to students and faculty alike that TJC was not the "sea of mud" of the past, but a growing and prosperous school that would surely do wonders in the years to come.

Students raise money through MS walk

By Drika Maxwell
Staff Writer

Multiple Sclerosis is a disabling disease that affects patients in the prime of their lives. More women than men contract MS and most are Caucasian women between 20 and 50 years old, Vocational Nurse Educational Instructor Hollie Bengé said.

MS is an autoimmune disease that affects the nerves of the body. Nerves are like a cord, protected by a plastic like coating on the outside. In nerves, like the cord, this coating provides for protection. The inner part of a nerve fires the signal to the brain.

In people with MS, the body attacks the myelin and begins to destroy it. With the myelin gone,

nerves are exposed. Just like an electrical cord, the nerves fire with no protection, leaving the body numb and tingling. As the body stops fighting in this area, a scar appears causing the nerves to fire ineffectively. This leaves the body reacting weirdly. This act is called demyelination," Bengé said.

MS appears in varieties: relapsing-remitting, primary-progressive, secondary-progressive and progressive-relapsing. All four involve worsening of symptoms followed by periods of a subtle relief she said.

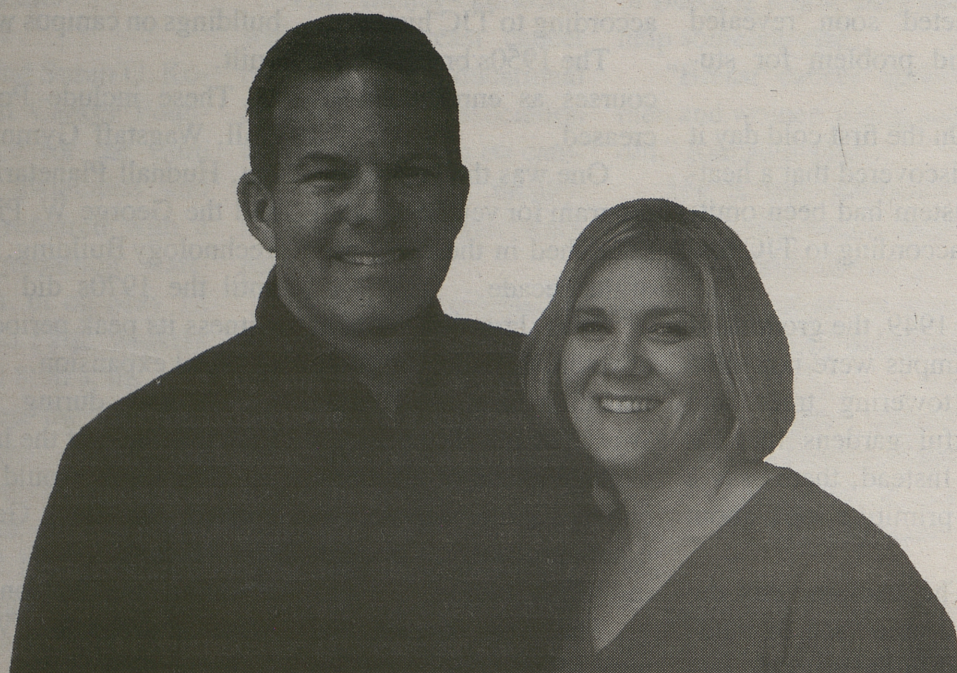
MS symptoms vary, ranging from numbness and tingling to even blindness."

People affected with

MS often fall from a lack of balance. They can also have cognitive problems, but the No. 1 symptom most complain about is fatigue, especially during hot weather, Instructor Bengé said.

Bengé decided to help others know more about this disease. She organized the walk in which more than 120 students participated. They raised more than \$1,200 which will go to MS patients here.

"What a wonderful way to spread the knowledge of MS," Bengé said. "This is also a great way to see how the TJC Vocational Nurse Education Program is out there helping and learning to be the best advocate that they can be."



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Nursing program educates

Continued from page 4
dents to achieve the current 95 percent pass rate.

Seeton said, "The faculty has done a lot of hard work making changes to benefit the program. We are trying our best to make the students successful."

To become a registered nurse, students must take the National Council Licensure Examination. "The purpose of the NCLEX exam is to determine safe, competent care. In the December graduating class, 40 students took the NCLEX and 38 passed," she said.

The nursing profession faces a major short-

age of nurses. A study by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing is expected to show a national decline of one million nurses in 2012.

"The Governor of Texas wants to have a 46 percent increase in nursing by 2010. There is a lack of resources, not a lack of students," Seeton said.

The entire nursing faculty is particularly proud of the successful nursing students. Seeton said, "The most important thing we have done is to help the students connect the dots between theory and practice."

TMA hosts special day at TJC

*By Mary Hale
Staff Writer*

TJC faculty, staff and students can bring their immediate families to enjoy "James McNeill Whistler: Selected Works from the Hunterian Art Gallery" free of charge.

The exhibit includes 130 pieces of biographical art from Glasgow University's Hunterian Art Gallery. The Hunterian is considered the world's greatest repository of the famous artist's works and personal belongings.

James Abbott McNeill Whistler was born July 11, 1834 in Lowell, MASS. He studied drawing at the

Imperial Academy of Fine Arts and with Robert W. Weir in the United States Military Academy at West Point. His life long focus on painting earned him an honorary doctorate of law by the University of Glasgow, Scotland. This exhibition will return to Scotland.

Those who miss TJC Day, can visit the museum at a later date. The hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Cafe hours are: Tuesday through Friday 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. They are closed on Monday's and

most holidays.

Admission is free for TMA members. Prices are: adults-\$3.50, seniors-\$1.50 and children-\$1.50.

Registration

Students can now register for Summer I and Summer II sessions online at Campus Connect. In the fall, TJC will use a new registration tool, which will have everything that the previous registration system had and more. Fall registration will begin at 8 a.m. April 23. More information can be found at www.tjc.edu.

Food Services work hard, Lippitz said

*By Nikki S. Bell
Staff Writer*

Most of the people on campus eat in campus food services that are provided here. All the food served in the Cafe, Java Cup and the Deli are under the control of the Food Service Director Rick Lippitz. Valley Food Services, which prepares campus food, also provides food to colleges, hospitals, academies and prisons in other places. TJC contracted with the same service used by other academies, colleges and universities.

Hired in August 2002 as the executive chef, Lippitz was promoted to food service director of Lon Mor-

ris College in Jacksonville. He just recently returned to TJC as director.

"There are a lot of changes being made in the dorms for 2008, possibly adding kitchen appliances. Valley plans an upgrade in food services with more options for vegetarians and overall improvement of the look and taste of the foods," Lippitz said.

"On the average, 200 students eat breakfast, 500 eat lunch and roughly 500 eat dinner in the cafeteria," he said.

The Deli serves almost 1,000 students daily and the Java Cup serves 100 to 150 students a day," Lippitz said. Those who use the

Deli the most are students and faculty in Pirtle Tech. Many of these students are in the nursing program or don't want what is served in the cafeteria.

"The meals that are provided for the students are "basic home-cooked foods," Lippitz said. "But most students don't want that. They want fast food."

The Java Cup serves a mixture of everybody, so we just started serving hot foods and coffee, Lippitz said.

"The Cafeteria is where the majority of the students on campus eat because they don't have available income. The football players have a 19-meal plan,

so they must eat on campus," he said. The catering service is used mostly by faculty and staff, to serve many coffee breaks and meals.

Lippitz graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in 1981. "If there is something I could do to make things better," he said, "I would tell people be aware of the atmosphere, have more respect and clean up after yourself. I do everything in my power to keep things in top-notch condition."

There is no particular budget for the food service. It is a profit-loss balance. "Serve it well," he said.

TJC News

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Tyler Transit

Continued from page 8

girl smiled and laughed at the jokes going around the bus between the blonde bus driver and the passengers close to the front of the bus. One young man who works for Tyler Organ and Piano even called the bus driver "Momma."

The sense of community was overwhelming. Feeling more at home now, the girl scooted across the aisle to enter the conversation and become part of this mobile community. She chose to sit next to a friendly-looking older woman.

As it turned out, the older lady was friendly. Carrie Ausborn said she had been

riding the bus since there has been a bus. Ausborn reassured the girl that everyone on the bus was harmless and congenial.

A man leaned over the seat to interject his opinion of the bus ride, which he has been riding everyday since he moved from Dallas to Tyler about two years ago. Kev-ery Wilson was taking the Red Line downtown. Wilson said he knew everyone on this route and

enjoyed the blonde bus driver's nice attitude.

Both Ausborn and Wilson said the Tyler Transit System is improving its

scheduling, stops and timeliness. They like the atmosphere and said they will continue to ride the bus regularly.



Photo courtesy of www.cityoftyler.org

Smiling with her new-found friends, the girl noticed East Texas Medical Center quickly approaching. This was her stop so she wished her friends a nice trip and a good day. They hoped to see her again, they said. The girl waved as she stepped off the bus onto the pavement. The bus pulled away from the curb with a gentle rumble.

On March 5, the girl had the privilege of meeting some regulars on the bus system in Tyler, and this is her story. If any readers fear public transit or the individuals using it, the girl would ask them to reconsider and try it. They might just find they like it.

Las Mascaras Speech and Drama Club celebrate 80 years

By Mary Hale
Staff Writer

Las Mascaras Speech and Drama Club will celebrate 80 years of support for the dramatic activities on campus.

The activities are: Friday April 27 at 9 p.m. Director of Annual Giving, Joan Andrews and Director of Principal Giving, Mitch Andrews, Las Mascaras alumni of 1983, will host an "after the play" reception at their home for theater alumni and faculty.

Other events are a luncheon April 28 at 11:30 a.m. at Hollytree Country Club and a 5:30 p.m. reception for theater alumni and "Have a Seat" donors at Tyler Museum of Art

and Jean Browne Theater. Immediately afterwards, "Harvest, A Texas High Plains Trilogy" written by Dr. David Crawford, instructor/departments chair of speech/theater and Las Mascaras alumni of 1971 will open.

Amy Motes McCullough, Las Mascaras alumni of 1981 and her husband, David, will host a 10 a.m. brunch in their home in Tyler's historic Azalea District on April 29.

The 2006-2007 Las Mascaras officers are: Sergeant at Arms Brooks Burton, Vice President John Grote, Historian Meagan Moore, and President Christina Ivy.

Las Mascaras, or "the

maskers," was the name chosen by the late Las Mascaras Vice President and charter member Edwin Potter, for whom Potter Hall is named.

Any student can join Las Mascaras by working on production crews to earn 75 points and paying their \$10 dues. Las Mascaras membership is lifelong and there are members all over the world.

Freshman Theater Major Krystal King said, "I feel that I bring creativity and originality to Las Mascaras. Being from Skyline High in Dallas, I have a vibrant style that they haven't seen before." "This organization gives me a sense of belonging to something

that is not just important to me, but everyone on campus," King said. "The constitution of Las Mascaras is what I live by. It expresses everything I give and get from the organization", King said.

According to its charter, "The purpose of Las Mascaras Speech and Drama Club shall be to further the skills and interests of students of Tyler Junior College in the fields of Speech and Dramatic Arts by continuous and active participation in all such areas. It shall also be the purpose of the Las Mascaras Speech and Drama Club to further the interests and advance the knowledge of the people of this and sur-

rounding areas by public performance of material of the highest caliber."

Several alumni have produced plays performed at TJC. They are: Nick Wilkinson alumni of 1973, with "Dearly Beloved," Cyndi Williams alumni of 1978 with "A Ghost with a Name to Mutter," "Oklahoma", the first musical in 1968 and David Crawford alumni of 1971 with "Harvest - A Texas High Plains Trilogy."

The entire weekend (including tickets to Saturday night's play) will cost \$35. For more information contact Nicole in the alumni office at 903-510-2588 or e-mail Betty Briggs at bbri@tjc.edu.